

Wethersfield Parks and Recreation Advisory Board
Harbor Management Commission
Minutes - Thursday, June 28, 2012

The Advisory Board held their annual park tour prior to the meeting. Board members present for the tour were Tom Ragonese, Richard Lepore and Tom Mull. Also present was Mike Hurley, Town Council Liaison, Kathy Bagley, Parks and Recreation Director, Charlie Forsdick, Harbormaster and Charlie Viani, Deputy Harbormaster. The tour began at 5:30 pm. and involved a boat tour of Wethersfield Cove and the Connecticut River in Wethersfield. Tom Mull provided his boat and Charlie Forsdick used the Harbormaster boat. Charlie Forsdick, Harbormaster provided information on different points of interest in the Cove and on the river. He discussed the following items:

- Dock project at Wethersfield Cove Yacht Club
- Resident's dock issue as it could pose a hazard to navigation
- Yacht Club mooring field
- Municipal services dock
- Designated fishing areas
- Entrance Channel clearing
- Potential site for disposal of dredged material from channel (future project)
- Patrol route

Board members appreciated the tour and thanked Mr. Mull for the use of his boat. They appreciated all the information provided by Mr. Forsdick.

The meeting was held at Lucky Lou's restaurant and called to order by Chairperson Tom Ragonese at 7:00 p.m. Members present were Chairperson Tom Ragonese, Richard Lepore and Tom Mull. Also present were Mike Hurley, Town Council Liaison, Kathy Bagley, Director of Parks and Recreation, Charlie Forsdick, Harbormaster and Charlie Viani, Deputy Harbormaster.

A. Public Comments – None.

B. Minutes – May 24, 2012.

Chairperson Ragonese asked Ms. Bagley about the status of reviewing boat fees. Ms. Bagley explained that staff will be putting together information on boat fees for the July meeting. He asked if work had been done on the 1860 Reservoir Park road. Ms. Bagley reported that maintenance staff had told the Town Manager that the road would be fixed by Friday, June 22. Ms. Bagley has not checked the road yet. He also asked if work had been done to clean the branches at the upper pond in Mill Woods. She reported that some of the branches were cleared and maintenance was continuing their work. Mr. Ragonese asked if Ms. Bagley reported to the Town Manager that the Lighted Little League field was not rototilled for this season. She did report it to the Town Manager. Mr. Ragonese asked Ms. Bagley to find out why it was not done this season. Ms. Bagley explained the fields should be rototilled in the fall. They were not done in the fall because of the October snowstorm. She will check why it was not done in the spring. Richard Lepore moved to approve the minutes of the May 24, 2012 monthly meeting. The motion was seconded by Tom Mull and approved unanimously.

C. Monthly Report – May 2012.

The Monthly Report was reviewed by Board members.

D. Letters and Announcements.

1. Letter from James Harris, Chairman, Wethersfield Cove Yacht Club Board of Trustees.

Chairperson Ragonese reviewed the request from the Yacht Club to permit their members who are assigned to a Yacht Club slip or mooring to launch at the Cove for no fee or, alternatively, by use of an annual pass purchased by the Yacht Club. Board members discussed this request. The Harbormaster and Deputy Harbormaster support the Yacht Club request because of the assistance provided to them by the Yacht Club. Mr. Forsdick and Mr. Viani explained that they use the dock at the Yacht Club free of charge for different needs. They can tie their boat up at the dock during high water and still be able to access the Cove. The Yacht Club allows them to use their services at the dock, including water. Also the town emergency

boats have used the yacht club docks for their needs. The Yacht Club works cooperatively with the Town to manage the Cove. Board members supported this request and asked Ms. Bagley to work with Mr. Harris and have the Yacht Club purchase an annual pass for their members who are assigned to a slip or mooring at the Yacht Club.

E. Old Business.

1. Air Conditioning Unit for Gymnasium Project at 9/11 Memorial Sports Center.

Ms. Bagley reported that the air conditioning unit has been installed and construction is almost completed.

F. New Business

1. Family Swim Pool Passes.

Ms. Bagley discussed with the Board a resident's request to allow college students living at home to be included on the pool pass. She explained that she allowed the resident to include his adult son who attends college on the family pool pass. Board members had no problem with including college students on family pool passes.

2. Mill Woods Swim Pool Water.

Once again MDC has allowed the Town of Wethersfield to fill the Mill Woods Swimming Pool with water at no charge. This cost is approximately \$20,000. This cost savings is used to cover improvements and maintenance issues in the pool and the parks.

3. Mill Woods Swim Pool Filter Operation.

Over the past several months, staff has been working on improvements to the filter operation. Problems have come up with the pump and motor. Staff worked with MDC personnel to identify and correct the problems. An engineer was hired to review the entire process and make recommendations for improved operations. The filter is operating and we will be working with the engineer to follow up on any recommendations.

4. Pool Openings.

Due the heat wave last week, Willard pool opened a day early on June 20 with an attendance of 270 from 4-8 p.m. Both pools opened for regular hours on June 21.

G. Board Member Comments.

1. Mill Woods Softball Fields #3 & 4 – Mr. Mull asked the status of their renovation. Ms. Bagley has spoken with maintenance to develop a plan for the renovation. Field improvements include regrading the fields, fixing drainage, backstop repair/replacement and researching water availability and skinning the infields.

H. Harbor Management Commission.

1. Harbor Management Plan.

Chairperson Ragonese reported that the plan has been submitted to the State for official review. Charlie Forsdick suggested we may hear something from the State by the end of July.

2. Status of Permit Process with State for Cove Docks & Boat Launch Ramp.

Ms. Bagley reported that the additional information requested by the State has been sent in. State will review that information and hopefully consider issuing the permit.

3. Harbormaster Report.

Harbormaster Charlie Forsdick distributed his monthly report to the commission. Commission members reviewed his report. Report is attached to minutes.

I. Motion to Adjourn.

A motion was made by Richard Lepore and seconded by Tom Mull to adjourn the meeting at 8:38 p.m.

Motion passed unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,

Kathleen A. Bagley, Director
Parks & Recreation Department